

[+] Research statement

Research statement

Topic: Reasons to join a sect.

Research questions:

1. How strong is christianity in the NL?
2. What do these people do?
3. Who are they in person?
4. How do they perceive the goal of life?
5. How do people join them?
6. What causes people to join the group?
7. How is it compared to Poland with Christianity as state religion?

So what?

- It is important since we have the global crisis of authority.

Who cares?

- I perceive every group as potential anchoring point for radicalism. Important thing is to understand them, to live in peace together.

What's at stake?

- It would show who are these people in fact, are these random radicals? Lost minds?

Feasability:

Can I easily access this site/community on a regular basis—at all hours of the day, week after week?

- Yes it is easy accessible.

Will it allow me to practice all the different methods we'll be experimenting with in this

class: participant observation, interviewing, sound, video, photography, drawing, mapping.

If not, how will you overcome the challenge?

- I think so, I don't know if all, but definitely many.

Can I realistically build relationships with the people here? Who will I talk to first?

- Yes, but it will require me to attend and "become" a believer. Firstly I will talk to the first person I will meet.

Are there any ethical issues I need to think about (privacy, sensitive topics, vulnerable groups)?

- Yes, but it is from personal point of view, because I am very against any sorts of manipulation and perceive it as subhuman actions. However I will have to use it. In case of sensitive topics, I do want to

ask about their private life, which may result in increasing their distrust towards me. To prevent it I will have to share them my personal life, which I do not want, so I am gonna mix true with fake identity with multiple details to keep it real.

Concerns:

I do not want to be a witness of any weird rituals. Low probability, but not impossible.

Elevator Pitch

Ever thought why do people join religious groups? What do they tell them? Are they being manipulated? If yes then how?